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IDEM  
Office of Air Management  
Rules Guidance

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## **AMENDMENTS TO RULES CONCERNING SULFUR DIOXIDE (SO<sub>2</sub>) AND PARTICULATE MATTER (PM<sub>10</sub>) EMISSIONS AT THE D.H. MITCHELL GENERATING STATION IN LAKE COUNTY**

### **FACT SHEET**

#### **Overview**

This rulemaking amends 326 IAC 6-1-10.1(d), Lake County particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) emissions requirements, and 326 IAC 7-4-1.1(c)(17), Lake County sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions requirements, for Northern Indiana Public Service Company's (NIPSCO) D.H. Mitchell Generating Station in Lake County, Gary, Indiana. The proposed amendments provide for alternative operating scenarios utilizing various fuels. Allowable particulate and sulfur dioxide emissions will not increase with the addition of alternative operating scenarios.

#### **Citations Affected**

Amends: 326 IAC 6-1  
326 IAC 7-4

#### **Affected Persons**

Northern Indiana Public Service Company, D.H. Mitchell Generating Station.

#### **Potential Cost**

The potential financial impact

associated with this rulemaking is positive because it will allow NIPSCO to operate in a more economical fashion by providing alternative operating scenarios.

#### **Description**

Because of Lake County's nonattainment designation for both sulfur dioxide and particulate matter, specific rules limit both SO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> emissions from the generating station. NIPSCO has requested amendments to the rule to allow for alternate operating scenarios at the D.H. Mitchell Generating Station. There are four boilers sharing two stacks; boiler numbers 4 and 5 share one, numbers 6 and 11 share the other. NIPSCO proposes to retain its current emission limitations and add alternative limits to permit alternative operating scenarios. If the rule is changed to allow for alternative operating scenarios, NIPSCO will amend its pending Title V permit application.

According to NIPSCO's request, allowable SO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> emissions will not

increase, but the requested changes will provide increased operational flexibility, particularly in fuel use. NIPSCo is working with IDEM on air quality modeling to assure that there will be neither adverse air quality impacts nor exceedances of the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS).

The requested rule change would result in the following operational changes at the D.H. Mitchell Generating Station:

- ▶ (1) Reduction of the exit diameter, before operating under certain scenarios, on the stack serving boiler numbers 4 and 5 to eight and three-tenths (8.3) feet as is currently required for the stack serving boiler numbers 6 and 11.
- ▶ (2) The ability to operate boiler numbers 4, 5, 6, and 11 simultaneously on coal with reduced emission rates (compared to current requirements) for both SO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> for all units at the station.
- ▶ (3) The ability to operate either boiler numbers 4 and 5 or 6 and 11 simultaneously on coal with existing SO<sub>2</sub> emission limits and a PM<sub>10</sub> limit of 0.100 pounds per million Btu, during periods when the other pair of boilers is not operating.

These changes would result in alternative operating scenarios in addition to the following operating scenarios which are allowed under the current rules:

- ▶ Boiler number 4 or 5 operating on coal if one of the two boilers is operating on natural gas or not in use.

- ▶ Boiler numbers 6 and 11 operating simultaneously on coal.

#### **Consistency with Federal Requirements**

The amended rules are consistent with federal rules. IDEM is working with U.S. EPA on the technical analysis of the air quality impact of these requested changes. After promulgation, the rule changes will be submitted to U.S. EPA as an amendment to Indiana's State Implementation Plan.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF FACTORS OUTLINED IN INDIANA CODE 13-14-8-4**

Indiana Code 13-14-8-4 requires that in adopting rules and establishing standards, the board shall take into account:

- 1) all existing physical conditions and the character of the area affected;
- 2) past, present, and probably future uses of the area, including the character of the uses of surrounding areas
- 3) zoning classifications;
- 4) the nature of the existing air quality or existing water quality as the case may be;
- 5) technical feasibility, including the quality conditions that could reasonably be achieved through coordinated control of all factors affecting the quality; and
- 6) economic reasonableness of measuring or reducing any particular type of pollution.

The board shall also take into account the right of all persons to an environment sufficiently uncontaminated as not to be injurious to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life or to the reasonable enjoyment of life and property.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the board preliminarily adopt the amended rules as presented.

#### **IDEM Contact**

Additional information regarding this rule making action can be obtained from Thomas A. Frankiewicz, Rules Development Section, Office of Air Management, (317) 232-1553 or (800) 451-6027 (in Indiana).